

## Claims

1. An agent for elevating dendritic cell precursor level in the blood which comprises an agonist to a receptor expressed in immature dendritic cells or a functional derivative thereof as the active ingredient.

2. An agent for elevating dendritic cell precursor level in the blood which comprises an agonist to receptor CCR1 or CCR5 or a functional derivative thereof as the active ingredient.

3. An agent for elevating dendritic cell precursor level in the blood as claimed in claim 2 wherein the agonist is selected from among MIP-1 $\alpha$ , MIP-1 $\beta$ , RANTES, MARC, LCC-1(ref), MCP-3 and MCP-4.

4. An agent for elevating dendritic cell precursor level in the blood as claimed in claim 2 wherein the agonist is selected from among MIP-1 $\alpha$ , RANTES, MARC and LCC-1(ref).

5. An agent for elevating dendritic cell precursor level in the blood as claimed in claim 2 wherein the agonist or a functional derivative thereof is MIP-1 $\alpha$  or a functional derivative thereof.

6. An agent for elevating dendritic cell precursor level in the blood as claimed in claim 5 wherein the functional derivative of MIP-1 $\alpha$  is BB-10010.

7. An agent for elevating dendritic cell precursor level in the blood as claimed in claim 1 wherein the functional

derivative of the agonist is an agonist to a receptor expressed in immature dendritic cells which is chemically modified with an amphipathic polymer.

8. An agent for elevating dendritic cell precursor level in the blood as claimed in claim 2 wherein the functional derivative of the agonist is an agonist to receptor CCR1 or CCR5 which is chemically modified with an amphipathic polymer.

9. An agent for elevating dendritic cell precursor level in the blood as claimed in claim 2 wherein the functional derivative of the agonist is MIP-1 $\alpha$ , MIP-1 $\beta$ , RANTES, MARC, LCC-1(ref), MCP-3 or MCP-4 which is chemically modified with an amphipathic polymer.

10. An agent for elevating dendritic cell precursor level in the blood as claimed in claim 2 wherein the functional derivative of the agonist is MIP-1 $\alpha$ , BB-10010, RANTES, MARC or LCC-1(ref) which is chemically modified with an amphipathic polymer.

11. An agent for elevating dendritic cell precursor level in the blood as claimed in claim 2 wherein the functional derivative of the agonist is MIP-1 $\alpha$  or BB-10010 which is chemically modified with an amphipathic polymer.

12. An agent for elevating dendritic cell precursor level in the blood as claimed in claim 2 wherein the functional derivative of the agonist is BB-10010 which is chemically modified with an amphipathic polymer.

13. An agent for elevating dendritic cell precursor level in the blood as claimed in any of claims 7 to 12 wherein the amphipathic polymer is a partially alkyl-esterified styrene-maleic acid copolymer.

14. An agonist to a receptor expressed in immature dendritic cells which is chemically modified with an amphipathic polymer.

15. An agonist to receptor CCR1 or CCR which is chemically modified with an amphipathic polymer.

16. An agonist as claimed in claim 15 which is MIP-1 $\alpha$ , BB-10010, MIP-1 $\beta$ , RANTES, MARC, LCC-1(ref), MCP-3 or MCP-4 which is chemically modified with an amphipathic polymer.

17. An agonist as claimed in claim 15 which is MIP-1 $\alpha$  chemically modified with an amphipathic polymer.

18. An agonist as claimed in claim 15 which is BB-10010 chemically modified with an amphipathic polymer.

19. An agonist as claimed in any of claims 14 to 18 wherein the amphipathic polymer is a partially alkyl-esterified styrene-maleic acid copolymer or a polyethylene glycol derivative.